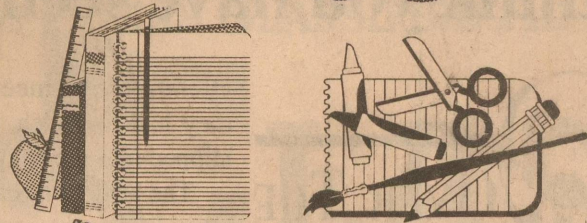


School

F



School Supply List ...see page 4

Eldorado Success

100th Year on Top of the Divide

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BETTER NEWSPAPER COOPERATIVE
AWARD WINNER
2001

West Texas Press Association
2001
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THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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VOLUME 100, ISSUE 31

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

AUGUST 2, 2001

Redistricting Board shifts Schleicher County into West Texas districts

Duncan & Gallego to represent us in legislature

Schleicher County voters will have new representatives in the State Legislature, under a plan adopted by the Legislative Redistricting Board last week. The board took over redistricting chores after the State House and State Senate failed to approve a compromise plan. Schleicher County was moved from State Senate District 25 to District 28 and from State Representative District 73 to District 74. In both, Schleicher County was moved from districts with strong ties to Central Texas and the Hill Country, and into decidedly West Texas districts.

State Senator Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, will represent Schleicher County in the State Senate while State Rep. Pete Gallego, D-Alpine, will be Schleicher County's representative in the State House. Both men have experience in representing far flung West Texas districts. Last week, their district's became even more far flung.

Duncan's former district comprised 36 counties, including a fish hook shaped arm that reached into the outskirts of El Paso. His new district is more compact, but takes

in 46 counties. Senate District 28 stretches from Carson, Gray and Wheeler counties in the Panhandle, southward to Schleicher County, the southernmost point in the district.

Representative Gallego's district also spreads across more counties since redistricting. Formerly, House District 74 took in only ten counties, now it takes in twenty. The district stretches from Hudspeth County in far West Texas, eastward to Schleicher County, the easternmost county in the district.

The reshuffle was prompted by the 2000 Census and Texas phenomenal population growth during the 1990s. Unfortunately for West Texans, the lion's share of that growth took place on the other side of Interstate 35. That forced a shift in representation and will deprive West Texas of some of its voting strength in the next session of the Legislature. To underscore the shift, Representative Pete Gallego's district will take in 20 West Texas counties while Harris County alone (Houston) will contain 25 house districts.

The redistricting plan redrew more than boundary lines, however. The plan, which heavily favors Republicans, all but assures the GOP of control of the Legislature in the next session. That's because the Legislative Redistricting Board was comprised of mostly of Republicans. House Speaker Pete Laney was the board's lone Democrat. He served with four Republicans: Attorney General John Cornyn, Land Commissioner David Dewhurst, Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander and acting Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff.

The LRB took over redistricting duties after the House and Senate failed to reach a compromise on the issue. The Democrat controlled House and the Republican controlled Senate were unable to reconcile their competing plans.

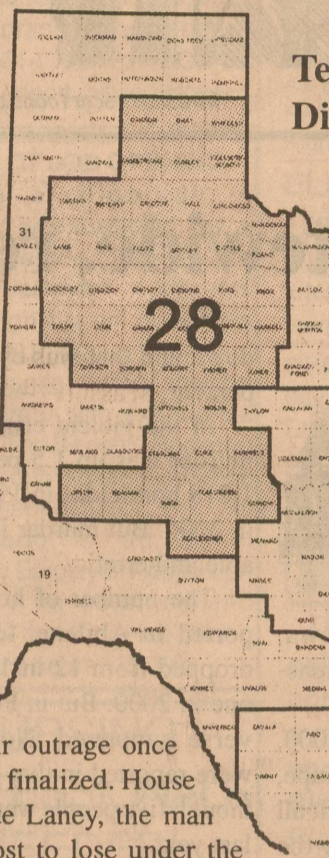
Once the LRB took charge, Attorney General John Cornyn substituted his own plan for the one offered by his fellow Republicans in the Senate. With very few modifications, it was Cornyn's plan that was adopted.

Democrats across the state ex-

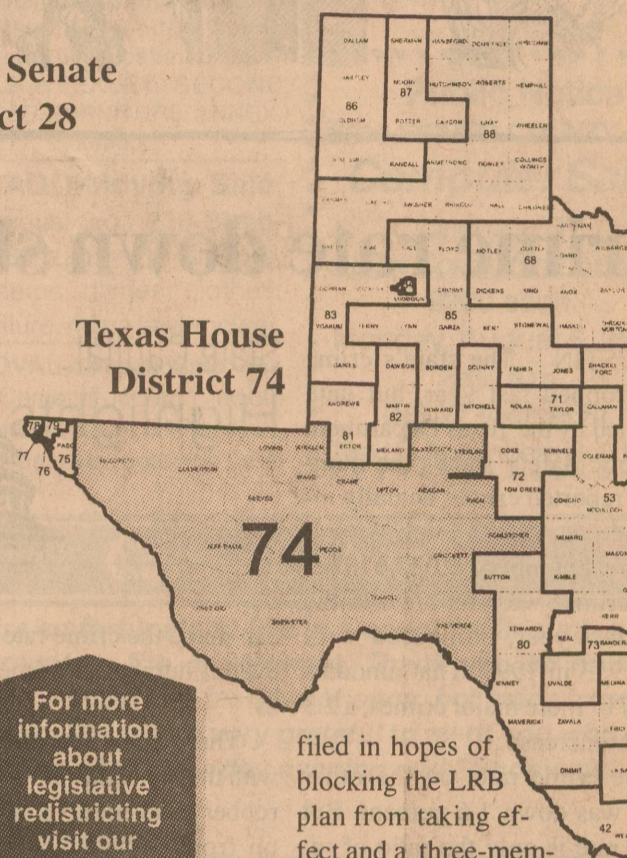
pressed their outrage once the vote was finalized. House Speaker Pete Laney, the man with the most to lose under the new plan spoke out, "If we can't be consistent, let's at least be honest with the people of Texas and admit that the Cornyn plan is based entirely on partisan politics — not fairness, not voting rights, not legal requirements — just partisanship," Laney said.

Laney's supporters were equally vociferous. Texas Farm Bureau President Donald Patman said, "Rural Texas was sacrificed be-

Texas Senate District 28



Texas House District 74



For more information about legislative redistricting visit our website at: myeldorado.net

cause of partisan politics."

For his part, Cornyn called Laney's plan an "incumbent protection plan" and noted that it would have most likely preserved the speakership for Laney while ignoring the fact that voting trends have changed in Texas.

Several lawsuits have been

filed in hopes of blocking the LRB plan from taking effect and a three-member panel of federal judges in Tyler is expected to hear arguments concerning the redistricting plan in October.

Barring action from the court, the redistricting plan will take effect on January 1, 2002. At that time Duncan and Gallegos officially begin representing Schleicher County. However, both men are already taking steps to move into their new districts. Senator Duncan is planning to close his district offices in El Paso and Odessa while at the same time making plans to open one in San Angelo.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

SCISD to receive \$143,000 from Crockett Co. Schools

by Kathy Mankin

Schleicher County I.S.D. will receive approximately \$143,000 from Crockett County Consolidated I.S.D. to spend on technology, under a program that allows richer school districts to purchase "weighted average daily attendance" from poorer schools. The complicated formula, which is an offshoot of the state's "Robin Hood" school finance plan, seeks to level the playing field between rich and poor school districts. Under the program, richer school districts like Crockett, can select which school districts get the money. Otherwise, the Texas Education Agency would take the money and assign it where it liked.

News of the development came at Monday night's meeting of the SCISD board of trustees. Superintendent George Blanch informed the board of the decision made by CCISD. Present for the meeting were trustees Jo Helen Kotsch, Steve Sessom, Phil McCormick, Eddie Albin and Kurtis Homer. Absent were Berta Nicholson and Sam Whitten, Jr.

In a phone interview on Tuesday, CCISD Superintendent Larry Taylor said that his district currently has a \$1.224 billion tax base. That easily qualifies the district as a Chapter 41 school. Taylor noted that his board of trustees chose to send their excess revenue to a cooperative of Chapter 42 schools, including SCISD, Brady, Rochelle, Nueces Canyon and Paint Rock. "For me what we are doing is a win, win situation," Taylor said. "We win because we can collect back the cost of appraisal and col-

lection of taxes in this process, provide money for school districts we choose and help the service center stay competitive. And the money stays among neighbors."

SCISD trustees officially voted to accept the funds Monday night. Taylor said CCISD trustees will vote to approve the deal on August 20. The only stipulation is that the money be used strictly for technology. ESC XV will be charged with distributing the funds.

In other business, SCISD trustees met Monday night with Ray Ballew, Chief Appraiser of Schleicher County Appraisal District. Ballew told the trustees that the total appraised value of property within the school district is \$370,461,580. The total assessed value is \$198,087,300 and the net taxable value is \$183,644,564. Also, Ballew passed out two charts showing the decline of oil and gas production since 1993. He noted that gas production has declined by approximately 30 percent in that time while oil production has dropped by 12 percent.

After voting to certify the appraisal roll, the board voted to accept multiple food service bids for the 2001-2002 school year from several food vendors. The school accepted multiple bids from all vendors and through regular price checking with suppliers will purchase products needed at the using the criteria of low price, product quality, product availability and service and delivery. Milk suppliers that supplied bids were Borden Dairies and Bell Dairy Products. Bread suppliers were Mrs. Baird's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Tense moments — Emergency personnel scoured the scene of this wreck Sunday looking for an infant believed to have been thrown from the car when it overturned. Investigators later learned that the child was safe at home with relatives.

Copperas Cove woman injured in rollover

Michell R. Tippens, 23, of Copperas Cove was taken by ambulance to Schleicher County Medical Center early Sunday morning after her 1988 Audi overturned about two miles east of Eldorado on U.S. 190.

Tippens was later transported by AirMed-1 helicopter to Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo where she was treated in the Intensive Care ward for a head injury.

Tippens had crawled from her car and onto the roadway where a passing motorist found her and called for help. She was semiconscious when emergency personnel

arrived and was calling for her baby. Emergency personnel anxiously scoured the area looking for an infant that might have been thrown from the vehicle. Sheriff's Department and Fire Department personnel were assisted in the search by several passersby. Baby items found in the car reinforced the suspicion that an infant had been in the auto.

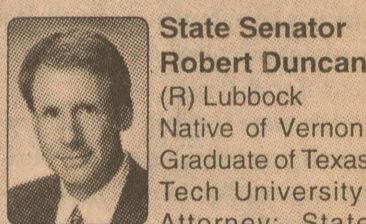
A cell phone found in the wreck contained several phone numbers in "memory" and Deputy David Oliván used the phone to contact Tippens' father and grandmother. From them he learned that Tippen's

children were safely at home with relatives. With that good news, the search was called off.

Oliván, who investigated the accident, said that Tippens was traveling from Arizona to Ft. Hood. She reportedly lost control of her car when she ran onto the unpaved section of roadway where highway repairs are being made. The car left the roadway and overturned.

Tippens was reportedly picked up by U.S. Army helicopter from Shannon Medical Center on Tuesday and taken to the hospital at Ft. Hood.

On Your Payroll

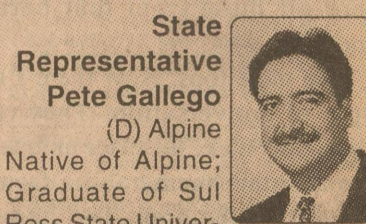


State Senator Robert Duncan
(R) Lubbock
Native of Vernon; Graduate of Texas Tech University; Attorney; State Representative 1993-96; State Senator 1997 - Present; Formerly represented 36 West Texas counties; now represents 46 West Texas counties, including Schleicher.

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State Representative Pete Gallego
(D) Alpine
Native of Alpine; Graduate of Sul Ross State University; Attorney; Six term member of the Texas House of Representatives; Formerly represented 10 West Texas counties; now represents 20 West Texas counties, including Schleicher.

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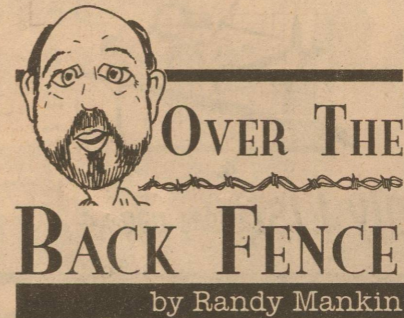
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Just when you think you have seen it all

"I've been to two goat ropings and a county fair but I ain't never seen nuthin' like this" --- the way Randy's friend D.W. usually describes unusual spectacles.



I got plenty of windshield time last week. Kathy and I went to Houston for a couple of days then swung back through College Station on our way home. Houston was hot and sticky... about 98 degrees and 75 percent humidity. Everytime I would head outdoors, my glasses would fog up. We stayed at a really nice place but, being a confirmed West Texan, I was happy to head back home.

In College Station we attended a seminar, sponsored by the Texas Press Association, for the purpose of updating newspaper reporters on rules governing public meetings, access to public records,

and the latest issues facing school districts. Since the state legislature is never satisfied and feels compelled to tinker with things each time it is in session, I have found it helps to hear from the experts as soon as possible after the legislature adjourns.

And, there were plenty of experts on hand in College Station. There was a State Appeals Court justice, representatives from the Texas Education Agency, the Texas State Teachers Association and several journalists with decades of experience. But by far the most interesting event of the day, took place across the hall in the hotel ballroom. That's where a Hindu wedding was being held. It was the last thing I expected to see in College Station, Texas.

As we made our way to our meeting room earlier in the day, I noticed several unusually dressed men and women. Unusual, that is, for Texas. They would probably have fit right in in New Delhi or Bombay.

I would estimate that the ballroom where the wedding was held could comfortably seat 800 people. I would also estimate that more than 1,500 had squeezed into the room to witness the ceremony. Then, the some of the women

attending our meeting decided they had to watch, too. So, they slipped into the back of the room.

The bride was carried into the room in an ornate sedan chair. As the procession made its way down the hall, hundreds of women serving as the bride's attendants began chanting. At that point, it was futile for our meeting to continue, so we broke for lunch.

In the hallway I saw men in colorful turbans and women in equally colorful saris. Then there were the flowers, lots and lots of flowers.

As the ceremony progressed, interpreters told the guests the significance of each of the rituals and how they would have been performed differently in India.

After things settled down, our meeting got back underway. When it was finally over, I walked outside where members of the wedding party were lingering and visiting with friends. The hallway was crowded and I had to maneuver around several clusters of people. At one point, one of the men, a spectacularly costumed man who was obviously a member of the wedding party, nodded at me and asked, "How y'all doin'?" His accent was decidedly Texan.

"Fine," I replied. "And, how're y'all?"

As I moved by him I noticed a pair of cowboy boots poking out from beneath his silk robes. He wasn't your stereotypical Texan. But, then again, is there such a thing anymore?

Texas is changing, that's for sure. And, the change is coming more rapidly than most people want to admit.

Crime rate down statewide, real numbers up

AUSTIN - The state's crime rate dropped last year, but data compiled by the Texas Department of Public Safety shows the number of reported crimes actually increased.

In real numbers, 1,032,670 serious crimes were reported in the state last year, compared with 1,009,953 in 1999. That amounts to 22,717 more major crimes, a 2.3 percent increase.

The crime rate, on the other hand, was down 1.6 percent. But crime rate is only the ratio of reported crimes per 100,000 population. An increase in population

State Capital Highlights

by Mike Cox

can make the crime rate go down, even if number of crimes increases.

That's what happened in 2000, with the incidence of murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault all up from the year before. In the property crime category, which includes burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft, only burglary was

down and that was by less than 1 percent.

In the violent crime category, murder was up 1.5 percent, from 1,218 homicides in 1999 to 1,236 in 2000. But murder is unpredictable and erratic.

The number of homicides reported in Abilene, for example, dropped from 12 in 1999 to only one in 2000. But in Plano, the reverse happened: No homicides were reported in that city in 1999 though five people were slain there last year.

Hate crime also increased in Texas, with 305 offenses reported last year compared with 286 the year before. Assaults and vandalism were the most common types of hate crimes, with only two homicides listed as hate crimes.

One bit of good news: Family violence did decrease slightly in 2000. The year saw 175,282 instances of family violence reported, compared with 177,176 cases in 1999.

Another piece of good news was an increase in the number of arrests for driving while intoxicated.

Texas police officers jailed 97,019 drunk drivers last year compared with 92,895 arrests the year before. That is a 4.4 percent increase.

Redistricting update

The Legislative Redistricting Board has released its vision of the state's new political map, but its action is only another rest stop on the road to court.

By its July 23 vote, the redistricting board placed 37 House members (28 Democrats and nine Republicans) in districts with more than one incumbent. The realignment of Senate districts creates one incumbent face-off.

With so many political careers at stake, it is a foregone conclusion that the judicial branch, not the legislative, will draw the final redistricting plan.

One thought: While many believe Texas should have a term limit law, in effect it already does: It's called redistricting.

Exports up

The dollar value of Texas exports has grown even faster than the nation's, according to Texas Department of Economic Development statistics.

Exports increased 23.5 percent in 2000 compared with a U.S. growth of 12.6 percent, the agency reported.

The value of Texas exports last year was \$122.4 billion. The increase seen from 1999 to 2000 was the largest since TDED began compiling export stats in 1987.

Texas' biggest market was Mexico, which imported \$52 billion worth of goods from this state.

TxDOT head retiring

After four decades of state service, Wes Head is retiring as executive director of the Texas Department of Transportation.

Head joined the agency in 1961. His retirement is effective Aug. 31.



ROLLING ALONG

WITH TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Dorothy Faye's Table Top Creations

You hardly notice when you pass from Winnie into Stowell. Both are cities in Chambers county in southeast Texas. A new landmark has been built in Stowell. It's a restaurant called Skip's Outrageous Bar & Grill.

"We were looking around, trying to figure out what type of business was needed here," says Dorothy Faye Hamilton, who runs the restaurant with her son Skip. "We figured everybody eats out, so here we are."

They had no background whatsoever in the food business. Dorothy Faye had owned about ten businesses before, but none of them had anything to do with food. "I thought Skip would enjoy visiting with customers. He's a people person."

The place resembles a Colorado Ski chalet. "The interior walls are from a hundred year old barn on our ranch that Skip tore down. The bar, the booths, the table tops were all built from that barn wood."

The table tops. Now there's a topic of conversation. They're what really make the place unique. They contain memorabilia from families in the area. The items range from a football ticket for a Rice Institute football game in the fifties to a baby's ankle bracelet. There are newspaper stories, photographs, key chains, things mailed from the San Jacinto monument in 1936 and little doo-dads you usually find stuck in drawers somewhere. "It's accumulated stuff," says Dorothy Faye.

Her family had pictures, her husband's family had pictures. "We had all kinds of neat little items, but nobody saw them. They were in boxes stuck in closets. We

decided to drag all this stuff out and let people enjoy it."

People brought in things when they found out what she was doing. "I went to the high school annual staff in Winnie and bought some pictures. Some of the newspapers gave me pictures. I collected these items over a three year period. We figured if we were going to name the restaurant outrageous, we needed to do something outrageous. The building is outrageous for Stowell, Texas. And instead of writing checks for things to hang on the walls, we decided to do local things on our table tops. It's a collage of life in the area during the 20th century."

Making the table tops was tedious. First the items had to be arranged and glued down, then epoxy was poured over them. "It's a real nasty process you go through," says Dorothy Faye. "I made about fourteen pours on each table and they have to be done twenty-four hours apart. The epoxy has to set up with each pour and you have to pour it real thin. It's a very slow process."

Building the table tops was as big a job as building the restaurant. "I had never done anything like this. I just bought the stuff, read the directions and said OK, here we go. I bought it at Home Depot. It's called Bills 50. And we went through tons of it for our twenty tables and the bar, which seats twenty-seven."

She says it's a really neat marketing tool because people come in and sit at one table and they have to come back to sit at another table to see who's picture or write-up is on that table. The table tops have some information about just about everybody in Stowell and Winnie.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS	same kind	28 More arctic
1 Knocks	57 Hotshot	29 Poisonous substance in snake venom
5 "It" girl Bow	58 Shout	30 European standard of measurement
10 Afternoon repasts	61 Ball like attributes	32 A drama set to music
14 Small island	65 One of the Khans	33 Roman goddess of agriculture
15 Cassius, Cicero or Tully	66 Cravat	34 Lift something with great effort
16 Graven image	70 Ensign	37 Nab
17 New York stadium	71 Mathematician Heinrich	38 Picas
18 J.R.'s family	72 Scallion	43 Blackbeard's last name
19 Baseball club	73 Trigonometric function	46 Skeletal structure of the chest
20 Poisonous salt of hydrocyanic acid	74 Roman forest god	48 Exist
22 Rented	75 Comfort	51 Mistake
24 Murmur like a dove	DOWN	54 Cartoon character Bailey
25 Breezy	1 Computer architecture for limited tasks (abbr.)	56 Indian nursemaids
27 Invigorate	2 Pale gray	57 More liable
30 Elsie's low	3 Supplication	58 Lummoxes
31 Date of reference	4 Spiritualist session	59 Tangerine and grapefruit hybrid
35 Frappe	5 Apy system of principles or beliefs	60 Conjunction used in comparatives
36 Glacial period	6 Miami art museum	61 TV manufacturer
39 Fencing foil	7 French friend	62 Small flightless bird of South America
40 Airtight cannister for preserving food	8 Campaigned	63 Greek god of war
41 Camp bed	9 Of English ancestry	64 Gospel writer
42 Greenwich Mean Time (abbr.)	10 Photo "type"	67 Ocean branch
44 Pitcher's stat (abbr.)	11 Redact	68 Large lending company
45 Inheritor	12 Topnotch	<i>See solution on Page 6</i>
47 Kudos	13 Sleigh	
49 Increase an engine's speed	21 Order of classical Greek architecture	
50 Cartoonist Pyle	23 Female sheep	
52 Cholera	25 Feathered scarf	
53 Humiliate	26 Columnades	
55 Two items of the	27 Supple	

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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OBITUARIES

William Ralph Schafer, Sr.

BIG SPRING — William Ralph Schafer Sr., 85, died Tuesday, July 24, 2001, at his residence. Graveside service was Thursday, July 26, 2001 in Garden City Cemetery. Arrangements were by Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral

Home. Survivors include three sons: Hugh Schafer of Garden City, William Ralph Schafer Jr. of Eldorado and Jerry John Schafer of Caldwell; and one daughter, Melissa Jordan of Roswell, N.M.

Madge Bernice Fuller Davis

SONORA — "Momma" Madge went to be with Daddy on July 13, 2001.

Momma Madge was born in Pawhusak, Okla., in the Osage Indian Meeting House on March 23, 1920. She met Birl Davis in Sonora and married in 1936.

Momma lived the rest of her life in Sonora, being wife, mother, ranch hand for daddy and grocery cashier. She was a member of Eastern Star, preceded by Big Birl who passed away in 1985. Madge took great pleasure in helping young people. She had ample opportunity with all of the kids that her children brought home. Madge will be deeply missed by many people whose lives she touched.

She is survived by two sons, Birl and Donna Davis, of Duncanville and G.W. "Grabb" and Debbie

Davis of Mertzon; two granddaughters, Claire Baxter of Vancourt and Lillie and Jimmy James, of Oklahoma City; two grandsons, Bryan and Cindy of San Marcos, and Wes Davis of Mertzon; one great-grandson, Mark Baxter of Vancourt; three very special persons, Jetty Davis of San Angelo, Larry (Rudd) Berger of Austin and Janet Marlow of Eldorado; and one brother, Buddy Fuller of Konawa, Okla.

Madge had a long battle with cancer for 12 months. The family would like to thank the Ozona Care Center staff, with a special thanks to two wonderful ladies that were so kind to her and her family the last two days of her life.

Memorials may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Pallbearers will be Richard Gray, Pete Skains, Tryon Fields, John Beckham, Tom Villiant and Houston Powers.

Service was Sunday, July 15, at the Episcopal Church in Sonora. Interment followed in the Sonora Cemetery. Arrangements were by Kerbow Funeral Home.



Fashion statement — Corie Williams of Eldorado (L) won 1st Place in the Jr. Specialty category while Rachel Karcher of Mertzon placed 7th in the Casual Sportswear division of the annual District 7 4-H Fashion Show in San Angelo last week. Corie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Williams of Eldorado. Rachel is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Karcher of Irion County.

Area youth compete in annual 4-H fashion show

SAN ANGELO — The theme "Cinema Magic" filled the air during this year's annual District 7 4-H Fashion Show as 79 young "fashion stars" modeled their finest creations at festivities July 24th in Southland Baptist Church. The show hosts 4-H members from across the district's 23 counties.

District competitors had to win their division in their home county to compete in the district show. Junior and intermediates competed in five separate categories in Construction and Buying. Another division, Non-Apparel, featured sewing creations such as pillows, throws, and toys.

First through sixth place winners in the garment category of Construction and Buying divisions earned rosettes and ribbons from AEP.WTU. In the Non-Apparel division winners earned first through sixth place ribbons.

Cotton garment winners in the construction Buying Division won cash awards from the Rolling Plains Cotton Compress and in the Buying Divisions from Gruben Farms in Fisher County. The Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association Women's Auxiliary also

gave the wool and mohair garment entries cash prizes.

Corie Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Williams, won first place in the Jr. Specialty Category; Rachel Karcher of Irion County daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Karcher won 7th place in the Casual Sportswear Division; Madelon Osbourne of Menard County won 3rd place in Intermediate Sportswear Casual Division and 1st place in Cotton Division she is the granddaughter of Lynn and Sylvia Griffin of Eldorado; Allison Zwaschka of Tom Green County won 3rd place in Jr. Buying she is the granddaughter of John and Pat Pitts.

Assisting with the Fashion Revue from Schleicher County were Kayla McCravey, Style Show Commentator; Courtney Brown and Emily Newman, Modeling Instructors; and Dest Sudduth assisted with Photography.

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative
 55th Annual Membership Meeting
 Tuesday, August 14, 2001
 Schleicher County Courthouse Lawn
 Eldorado, Texas
 7:00 p.m.

Meals for Friends Menu



Monday, August 6

Oven Fried Chicken Breast w/Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Seasoned Mixed Greens, Cornbread, Cubed Cantaloupe, Gelatin Parfait, Milk,

Tuesday, August 7

Hot Dogs w/ Chili & Cheese, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Buns, Pineapple Waldorf, Brownie, Milk

Wednesday, August 8

Chicken Strip w/ Gravy, Baked Potato, Broccoli w/ Cheese Sauce, Dinner Rolls, Peach Cobbler, Milk

Thursday, August 9

Soft Tacos & Cheese, Pinto Beans, Corn w/ Sweet Pepper, 2 Flour Tortillas, Chopped Lettuce & Tomato, Mixed Fresh Fruit w/ Cantaloupe, Milk

Friday, August 10

Ital. Caked Fish, Lima Beans, Baked Tater Tots, Cornbread, Sliced Strawberries, Milk

It's A Girl!

Torey and Jonah Griggs are proud to announce the arrival of their healthy new sister, Elaina Joy. She was born at 8:38 a.m. on Tuesday, July 24, 2001 at Shannon Hospital in San Angelo. She weighed 8lb 5oz and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Lainey's parents are Walter and Lorna Griggs of Eldorado. Grandparents are Gary and Mikell Robinson of Mineral Wells and Ramona Sharber of Elizabeth City, North Carolina. Great grandparents are Roberta Pruitt of Azle and Louise Robinson of Granbury.

Births, Deaths, Weddings, Engagements are all reported in **THE SUCCESS** It's the best source around!

BIRTHDAY LIST

AUGUST

- 2nd Clara Herrera, Angie Saldivar, Christopher L. Minor, Inez Graham, Johnny Mayo, Conner Blair
- 3rd Angela Redish, Cande Saldivar, Johnny Mayo Jr., Nancy Terry, Mary Cavness, Jerry Brock, Sherri Lux Garrett, Verna Lux Fritz, Adrian Dominguez
- 4th KimBeach, Pepper Nix, Steve Sykes
- 5th Maria F. Zuniga, Felipe Pina, Debbie Fritz, Traci Paxton Ross, Chase Thackerson
- 6th Mike Belman III, Austin Nixon, Ann Sears
- 7th Bill Dakan, Sharon Mittel, Lucille Littlepage, Duwain Sauer, Joey Hernandez, Marzel Herrera
- 8th Angie Bownds, Curtis Griffin, Elaine Marsh, Charles Ray Pfluger, Kathy Doty, Jewel Bailey

ANNIVERSARIES

AUGUST

- 3rd Angela & Peter Case, Jay & Lisa O'Harrow, Lindsey & Justin Edmiston
- 5th Troy & Wendy Daniels, Norman & Kathy Kohls

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Saturday, August 4 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 5 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

X BAR RANCH

DINNER SHOWS 2001

August 10: Mike Loving, author and cowboy poet is especially talented in presenting original cowboy poetry from mystical Terkalopes to mutton busting, he is also a published author and storyteller. The Pards will also perform special music. The menu for this evening will be big beef ribs and sausage with vegetables.

Place: Live Oak Lodge X Bar Ranch Eldorado, Texas
 Gates open at 5:00 p.m.

Meal Served +/- 7:30 Entertainment

Tickets sold in advance only for meal up to two days before each performance; Prices range from \$8-\$12.50 for full evening; \$4-\$8 for entertainment only.

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Best Wishes from First National Bank

Roxanne and Rojelio Adame

The Directors, Officers and Employees of First National Bank would like to extend best wishes to Roxanne Adame as she leaves the Bank to pursue her dream of owning a restaurant. Roxanne has not only been an asset to the Bank, but has always been there to lift each of us up with kind words (and lots of laughter!). As she leaves to open Amigo's Dream Restaurant and Gift Shop, we wish Roxanne and family great success and much happiness!



Good Luck!



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Silver Spur Ball held to benefit West Texas Rehabilitation Center

A total of \$27,250 was raised at the 11th Annual Silver Spur Ball held July 20 in San Angelo to benefit West Texas Rehabilitation Center.

"Ticket sales for the dance and proceeds from the silent auction hit a new high this year, which were significant factors in achieving this remarkable 225 percent increase in proceeds over last year's event," said Spur Ball com-

mittee chairman Dottie Frerich. "The biggest factor in our success," Frerich added, "Was our generous underwriters, who made it possible for 100 percent of other revenues to go directly to Rehab." Those underwriters were led by event sponsor Reece Albert, Inc., which was joined by SKML Ranch and A-B Distributing Co.

Approximately 200 auction items were donated to the Spur

Ball by San Angelo area businesses and individuals - and another group of Rehab friends prepared a hand-pieced quilt, which was won by Judith Shiller of Miles.

Held at Knights of Columbus Hall, The Silver Spur Ball is hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Mark Muller and Mr. Al Waters.

Through its facilities in San Angelo, Abilene and Ozona, West Texas Rehab Center provides outpatient rehabilitation care each year to more than 17,000 children and adults who have experienced disabling illnesses or injuries. Events like the Silver Spur Ball make it possible for WTRC to treat all who seek its services, regardless of their financial status.

High School registration scheduled next week

Eldorado High School students may be registering for the upcoming 2001-2002 school year starting on Wednesday, August 8th with the Freshman at 10:00 a.m. in the high school office. Sophomores will register Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. in the high school office. Then on Thursday, August 9th Juniors will register at 9:30 a.m. in the high school office. The Seniors will have their Senior Pictures taken throughout the day on Thursday, August 9th. After they have their pictures taken, Seniors may report to the high school office to pick-up their schedules. If you need any additional information, please contact Kenneth L. Newman at 853-2549, ext. 322 or 853-2072.

Middle School Registration Times

Registration for Eldorado Middle School for the 2001-2002 school year will be on Monday, August 6 at the following times:

5th Grade - 9:00 AM
6th Grade - 10:00 AM
7th Grade - 11:00 AM
8th Grade - 11:30 AM

2001-2002 School Supply List

KIDS KAMPUS (2) #2 Pencils; 1 small school box, (3) folders (pocket & brads), Kleenex (large box), (1) 8 count box of crayons, (1) 70 page spiral notebook, (1) 4 oz. school glue, 1 box sandwich size Ziploc bags, Fiskar scissors (round end), 1 backpack (to hold folders & jackets) PLEASE LABEL ALL SUPPLIES WITH CHILD'S NAME IN LARGE PRINT.


KINDERGARTEN Elmer's White School Glue - 4 oz.; (2) #2 pencils; Erasers (pink, rubber); Crayons - 1 box of 24; 1 box of long colored pencils; Fiskars for Kids scissors (metal blades); 1 Large box kleenex; School box -small; 6 pocket folders with bottom pockets; Backpack **THAT WILL HOLD FOLDERS**; (1) regular size towel for napping (no mats, large towels, or blankets); ALL SUPPLIES SHOULD BE LABELED WITH CHILD'S NAME IN LARGE PRINT; Other supplies may be requested by your child's teacher.

FIRST GRADE # 2 Pencils; Large Elmer's Glue (white only); School box; Metal inlaid scissors; Crayons; 1 pkg. 9 X 12 assorted construction paper (loose); 1 box kleenex; 4 pocket folders; 40 page spiral notebook; Pencil top erasers

SECOND GRADE Eraser; 4 pencils-(# 2); Crayolas box of 24; Elmer's glue (white); School Box-small; Fiskar's scissors; 4 Red marking pencils; Kleenex (200 count); 1 box sandwich size Ziplock bags; 6 pocket folders with bottom pockets; 1 pkg. 9 X 12 assorted construction paper (loose); Map colors; \$2.00 for Weekly Reader; NO NOTEBOOKS OR TRAPPER KEEPERS!

THIRD GRADE Crayons box of 24 (can be old- old is okay); (2) Two pencils #2; Kleenex (200 count); Scissors - sharp point (Fiskars only); Zipper pouch for notebook; Red marking pencils; Notebook paper (wide ruled, loose leaf); Loose leaf 3 ring notebook NO TRAPPER KEEPERS; 1 Pkg. dividers; Map colors-may be old if all colors are there; \$2.00 for Weekly Reader; INDIVIDUAL TEACHERS MAY GIVE ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES NEEDED THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

FOURTH GRADE 3 Ring notebook NO TRAPPER KEEPERS; Notebook paper (no college or narrow ruled); Eraser; Crayolas (large box); Map colors; Ruler both metric and American standard; Glue; Scissors 6" or 7" sharp point; 6 Red grading pencils; Kleenex - large box; #2 Pencils; (2) Pkg subject dividers with tabs; Zipper pouch; (2) Spiral notebooks (70 pages); (2) pocket folders (with 3 holes); Composition notebook (not a spiral) INDIVIDUAL TEACHER MAY REQUEST SPIRALS AND FOLDERS.



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Happy 16th Birthday Gregory

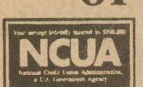



Love, Mom & Dad,
Patrick & Erin




Rick Sterling, Mortgage Loan Officer

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Athletic Booster Club Meeting TODAY!


There will be an Athletic Booster Club organizational meeting on Thursday, August 2, at 5:30 p.m. in the foyer of the High School Gym.

We're Behind You All The Way, Eagles!



Crowder Services, Inc.

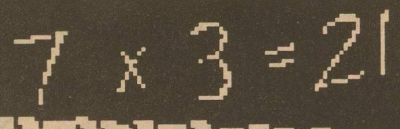
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Do you know a child ages 0-22 who shows signs of developmental delay, on-going learning problems, behavioral or medical problems that interfere with learning and is not currently receiving services?

If you do, please call the Special Education Director or Child Find Coordinator in your local school district for information on available help at no cost:

Schleicher County ISD 853-2770
Menard Special Educ. Cooperative
Lee Ann Holt, Director
915/396-4587



"Meet The Teachers"

Eldorado Elementary School
Tuesday - August 7, 2001
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Everyone who will have a child attending Eldorado Elementary School for the 2001-2002 school is invited to come to the Elementary School.

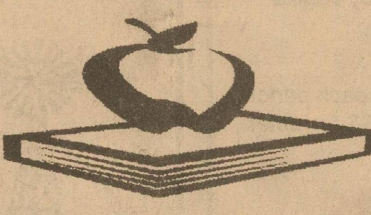
Information, questions, procedures, expectations, goals and objectives will be discussed with teachers.

A list of teachers and their students for the 2001-2002 school year will be posted.

For more information, please call Bob Wanoreck (Principal) at 853-2770, ext. 522.

Public Education in Texas is for Every Child. Don't Leave Any Child Behind.

Or you can make a **Child Find** referral to:
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Fort Hood man blames tardiness on mystery gunman

Terry Simien, 19, of Fort Hood, told Sheriff's Deputy David Oliván Monday evening that an unidentified gunman had forced him at gunpoint to surrender his automobile in Crockett County. Simien said he had caught a ride into Eldorado where he called for help from a pay phone at Shot's convenience store.

The story quickly unraveled, however, when Simien's car was found wrecked about 30 miles west of Eldorado on U.S. 290. After questioning by Texas Ranger Brooks Long, Simien reportedly told officers that he had fabricated the story in hopes of avoiding an AWOL charge.

Simien called the Schleicher County Sheriff's office from the pay phone at Shot's convenience store at 7:29 p.m. Monday, saying that an unidentified man had stolen his car. When Deputy Oliván arrived at the scene, Simien's story became more elaborate.

Simien told Oliván that he had stopped his car to read a map somewhere west of Eldorado when a tall white man with a shaggy

beard and mustache appeared at his door. Simien said the man forced him out of the car at gunpoint before taking the auto. Simien said a passing motorist picked him up and brought him to Eldorado.

Oliván said he began questioning Simien's story when he couldn't offer a better description of the bandit. Neither could the man describe the thief's gun. "He said he was a soldier stationed at Fort Hood," Oliván said, "But, he didn't know if the gun was a revolver or an automatic...blue steel or nickel plated."

Then came word that a 1998 4-door Mitsubishi, involved in an accident 30 miles west of town, was the same car that belonged to Simien.

"Nothing was adding up," Oliván said.

Simien told Oliván that he was traveling from Los Angeles to Fort Hood, where he was supposed to have reported for duty two days earlier. "He said he had called his sergeant to say he would be late because he needed to change the oil in his car," Oliván said.

Oliván transported Simien to the wreck scene where Crockett County officers were investigating. There, Simien was handed over to Texas Ranger Brooks Long who took charge of the investigation.

A few minutes later, Ranger Long contacted Schleicher County officers by radio to say that Simien had recanted his story.



Sharing the gospel — Eldorado's Haley Edmiston is among a group of Texas A&M University Students taking part in a mission trip to Thailand. Haley is pictured here (upper left) at a Thai hill tribe village. She is slated to return from Thailand on August 16. For more information about Haley's mission trip visit www.myeldorado.net and follow the Thai Mission Trip link.

Three-day Sales Tax Holiday begins Friday

Texans get a break from state and local sales taxes on purchases of most clothing and footwear on August 3, 4, and 5, 2001.

The three-day sales tax holiday, Texas' third, begins at 12:01 a.m., Friday, August 3, and ends at midnight on Sunday, August 5. During this period, retailers will not be required to collect sales taxes on most clothes and shoes (including boots) that sell for less than \$100.

Every city and local taxing jurisdiction will participate in the sales tax holiday, so the tax break will apply to both state and local

sales taxes.

Texas tax law limits the exemption. Tax is still due on sales of athletic and protective clothing and footwear that are not normally worn except for their intended use. For example, since basketball shoes are worn for many activities other than basketball, they may be sold tax-free during the tax holiday. On the other hand, spiked golf shoes are rarely worn except when playing golf and thus will not receive a tax exemption.

Additionally, tax is still due on sales of accessories, jewelry, handbags, luggage, umbrellas, wallets, watches, and similar items.

The tax holiday does not extend to clothing and shoe rentals, which continue to be subject to state and local sales or use tax.

Sales Tax Holiday TAX-FREE ITEMS

Baby clothes, Bathing suits, Belts with attached buckles, Boots (cowboy and hiking), Caps/hats (baseball, fishing, golf, knitted), Choir robes, Coats and wraps, Costumes, Diapers (adult and baby), Dresses, Gloves, Gym suits and uniforms, Hooded shirts and hooded sweat-shirts, Hosiery, Jackets, Jeans, Jerseys (baseball and football), Jogging apparel (bras, suits, shorts), Neckwear and ties, Pajamas, Pants and trousers, Raincoats and ponchos, Robes, Shirts, Shoes (sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking), Socks (including athletic), Shorts, Suits, slacks and jackets, Sweat-shirts, Sweat suits, Sweaters, Swim suits and trunks, Underwear, Work clothes and uniforms.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor express the opinions of the author. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the staff, management or ownership of the Eldorado Success.

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this time to tell "someone" and her family how much I am wishing her a quick recovery-Sherry Lux.

As of Monday she was still in the St. Luke's Hospital, Houston. Sherry has always been the best, a friend could be...definitely telling it like she saw it. She has worked on many committees in Eldorado doing whatever she could to help support the town and it's people...she has even drove my 88 year old dad to Eden to pick up a grain drill he had bought...and the stories go on...

I just want her to know that "I"...we are all thinking of her.

Cherishing her friendship,
Maggie L. Middleton

Retired highway employees to meet Aug. 13

"Retired Highway Employees will meet on Monday, August 13, 2001 at 11:30 a.m. at Zentner's Daughters Restaurant on Knickerbocker Road in San Angelo.

The purpose of the meeting is for retirees of Texas Highway Department, State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, and Texas Department of Transportation to visit and renew friendships.

Spouses are invited to attend the luncheon.

It's A Girl!

Baylee Mae Griffin is excited to announce the arrival of her little sister, Addie Jo Griffin, born on July 22, 2001, at Community Hospital in San Angelo. Addie tipped the scales at 5 lbs, 15 oz. and was 18" in length.

Her proud parents are Red and Debbie Griffin of Eldorado. She is welcomed by her grandparents, Lloyd and Shirley Keith of Pea Ridge, Arkansas and L.R. Griffin and the late Billie Griffin of Junction; great-grandparents Ennis and LaVerne Jetton of Junction; and great-great-grandmother Myrtle Tuckness of Junction.

Look who's 40



But she's no longer dorky!
From "The Gang"

www.myeldorado.net

Eldorado's Internet Homepage

College courses offered This Fall At SCISD

Schleicher County I.S.D. will be offering the following college courses here in Eldorado:

Sociology 1301 Accounting 2301
Business 2301 Economics 2301

You may ask for a complete class schedule at SCISD Administration office or look in next weeks Eldorado Success. You must have taken the TASP test or be TASP exempt in order to take these courses for college credit. If you have any questions, please call Mary Doran at 853-2514 x 226.

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"If we didn't have libraries, many people thirsty for knowledge would dehydrate."
Schleicher County Library is open Mon-Fri. 10:00AM-5:00PM

"Good judgment comes from experience, which generally comes from a lack of good judgment."

Not everything about the "good old days" was so good. Ask Ben Wilson. At ninety, he remembers what life was like before electricity: wood stoves, oil lamps. His father was a farmer and when Ben started his own place, in '42, the cooperative hooked him up.

Ben still depends on co-op power for his home. He belongs to a Smart Choice cooperative. What's "Smart Choice?" We're a coalition of Texas co-ops committed to making the right decision on electric deregulation.

Smart Choice Co-ops have made it possible for farm and ranch families, no matter how remote, to enjoy the same comforts and amenities as urban dwellers. For rural Texans, co-op power means more than lights and television and farm machinery and household appliances. It means freedom from drudgery, independence from the dictates of corporate boardrooms, and the power to decide their own path to the future. We intend to use that freedom to decide whether deregulation is right for our members.

Electric cooperatives in Texas have been providing power to Texans since 1937. As co-ops, we are non-profit and member-owned. To learn more about deregulation, visit us at our web site, or call your local Smart Choice cooperative.

the smart choice.

Your Smart Choice Electric Cooperatives.

- Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Comanche Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Concho Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.

www.smartchoicecoops.com

School board wants baseball field, says no to Centennial Park

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bread and Butterkrust Bakery while miscellaneous suppliers bidding included U.S. Food Service, Ben E. Keith Foods, B & R Food Service and Mayfield Paper.

Superintendent Blanch provided the board with copies of a food service manual written by new Food Service Director Beverly

Massingill. After reviewing the manual, the trustees voted to accept the manual as presented. They also approved the handbook for substitute teachers.

Next, the trustees took up discussion of several local policies, as recommended by Kaye Teaff, a policy analyst with the Texas Association of School Boards

(TASB.) After review, the board approved changes to policies concerning: employment practices, term contracts and at-will employment. It was further explained that the school need not pay severance pay to any employee terminated from their job.

Supt. Blanch then presented to the board information regarding the need for a Capital Acquisition Program to fund repairs to tennis courts, purchase of new vehicles and buses, upgrade electrical boxes in the elementary gym and a possible construction of a new drop-off area for kindergarten and first grade students. The discussion was tabled until all board members could be present.

The board then approved hiring teacher/baseball coach J.J. Or-

tiz. He was the head baseball coach and assistant football coach at Evtan High School. Ortiz will teach American and U.S. History, and Geography. He graduated from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls in December 2000 with a major in Kinesiology and a minor in Political Science.

It was then noted that the school district is now fully staffed and has 123 employees, including 65 teachers.

The board then met with Schleicher County Judge Johnny Griffin and Commissioner Johnny Mayo concerning a proposed trade of the school's Ag Building for the county's baseball field and Centennial Park. Concerns about school guidelines for use of the Ag Building were discussed with Judge Griffin pointing out that breeding stock that is not part of a 4-H or FFA project is being kept at the facility. Board President Phil McCormick agreed that it has been an ongoing problem, but that in the past control has been left with the high school Ag teacher and the County Agent. At that point, the group went into a called executive session for the purpose of discussing the trade of real property.

After approximately 40 minutes behind closed doors, the board emerged into open session and voted to exchange the school Ag Building for the County Baseball field. They declined, however, to accept the county's offer of Centennial Park as part of the trade.

With the conclusion of all business items on the agenda, the board entered into a budget workshop.

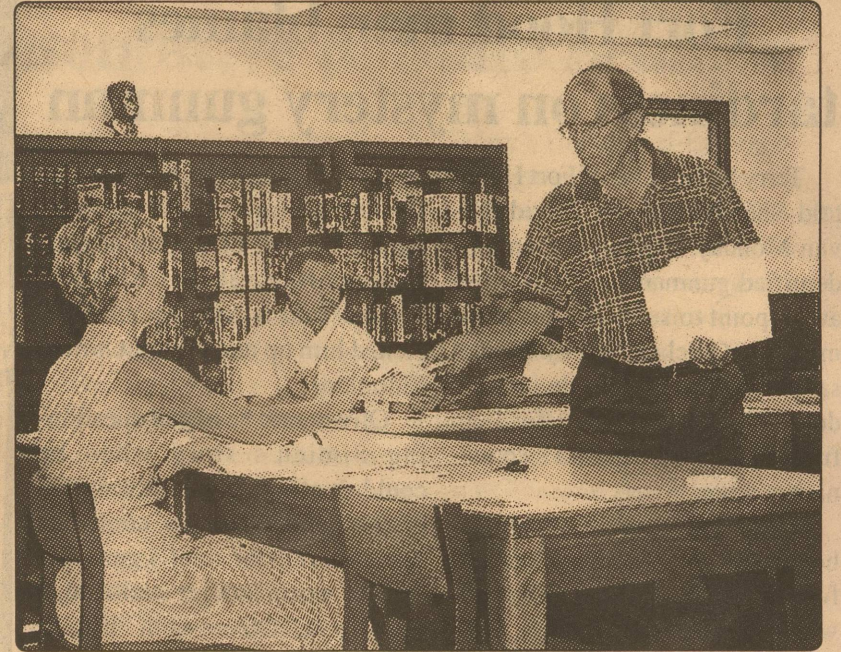


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN
The story is in the numbers — Tax appraiser Ray Ballaw distributed information concerning declining oil and gas production in Schleicher County to the SCISD board of trustees Monday night. Here he hands a packet of information to trustee Jo Helen Kotsch.

City council meets again with rural gas pipeline customers

by Pat Ragsdale

The Eldorado City Council met Monday night with several customers along a rural natural gas pipeline serviced by the city. The meeting was called specifically for the purpose of ironing out details of a service contract between the city and the customers. On hand for the meeting were Bill McCutcheon, Isabella McCutcheon, John E. Meador, Gene and Vernell McCalla, Sam Henderson, Jr. and Joe Charles Christian. They met with council members Tommy Minor, Toni Sudduth, Dora Bosmans, Richard Mendez and Mayor John Nikolauk, who called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

The two sides discussed a draft contract and suggested changes to the document. One item, a clause that would allow the city to abandon service to the line if such service became economically unfeasible drew questions from the customers. It was suggested and the council agreed that the clause could be rewritten to describe specific conditions, such as excessive line loss, under which the city could abandon the line. The customers asked that they be given the opportunity to repair the line if such circumstances ever arose.

A second item related to the placement of additional meters on one extension of the line that serves two parties. Following discussion,

it was agreed that City Administrator Randy Mankin and several representatives of the pipeline group would meet with City Attorney James Kosub later in the week to work out details of the contract.

A second item on the agenda was to discuss the difficulty the city is having filling vacant positions in its public works department. Mankin reported having no luck in finding qualified personnel to fill three vacancies. He further noted that, with the pending departure of another employee, a fourth position would open on Friday of this week. Mankin told the council that higher salaries and being offered in oil and gas related industries is the root of the problem. Mankin asked the council to consider offering a pay raise in hopes of keeping the city's current employees. Following discussion, the council voted unanimously in favor of a \$1.00 per hour pay increase to all city employees. The pay raise takes effect immediately.

Next, City Secretary Carolyn Mayo advised the council about her efforts in preparing the city's new budget for fiscal year 2002. She told the council that she did not expect significant changes in most items except as related to personnel and employee health insurance benefits. She stated that a more clear projection would be available at next week's regular council meeting.

Mankin updated the council on work at the city landfill. He noted that there had been a significant increase in volume at the landfill since Duncan Disposal began hauling garbage from Junction and Menard. This increase contributes significantly to the city's revenue but also increases the need for additional labor, Mankin said.

Mankin reported that those portions of fence along the side of the new Recycling Center building, as required in the contract for purchase of the land from the Presbyterian Church, have been completed. He noted that overall construction and paving at the facility should be completed this week.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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• Novel Lemon Bleach, 1 gal.

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C	O	O	B	L	O	W	O					
L	I	V	E	N	M	O	O	E	P	O	C	H
I	C	E	I	C	E	A	G	E	E	P	E	E
T	I	N	C	O	T	G	M	T	E	R	A	
H	E	I	R	P	R	A	I	S	E	R	E	V
E	R	N	I	E	I	R	E	A	B	A	S	E
B	R	A	C	E	A	C	E					
O	U	T	C	R	O	S	P	H	E	R	A	L
A	G	H	A	A	S	C	O	T	T	H	R	O
F	L	A	G	H	E	I	N	E	L	E	E	K
S	I	N	E	S	A	T	Y	R	E	A	S	E

Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department Donors

The Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department extends its appreciation to the following Associate Members for their thoughtful donations: A.T. and Jo Ann Turner, Jeff and Shelly Fennern, Wilde Farm and Ranch, Mike, Gary and Pat Foster, Head Family Farm - Jeannett Head, Francis and Euda Forehand, Billy Butch, Chip Cole Ranch, Mike Brenner Inc., Dewey Farmer Jr., Lynn and Sylvia Griffin, Leon Williams, Geraldine D. Barth, Janet Pope Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. James Lucas, Mrs. Ora A. Deal, Suzy Rosford, Rocking R. Ranch, Grace White, Southwestern Properties, Steve M. Sessom D.D.S., P.C. Walter C. Pope III Joe and Mary Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Cooper, Jose and Vivian Sanchez, Edwin M. Jackson Jr., Olga B. Robinson, Mr. Mrs. Lynn Meador, David and Mary Hernandez, Connie Trojck, Jim and Linda Chancellor, Susan T. Buchholz, Wilma Logan, Shannon and Janis Wilkerson, Mr. and Mrs. L.E. McCalla, R.&R. Cattle, J.F. and Norma Oglesby Jr., Gary and Princess Gruben, James and Dorothy Potts, James and Dorothy Dacy, Ray Mundell, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hooper, N&K Ranches Inc., Johnny Mayo Jr., Pom Newton White, Frank Adkins, J.W. Ranches, Helen Williams, J. Ellis Wardlaw, Joe and Linda Hunt, Joyce J. Mayer, Mayme Lee Green, George and Su Scott, Jessie Jenkins.

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Sun: 12:30-5:30

S.C.I.S.D. announces policy for providing free and reduced meals for children

Schleicher County I.S.D. today announced its policy for providing free and reduced meals for children served under the national School Lunch and School breakfast programs. Each school and/or the central office have a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits. Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Foster children who are the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court may also

be eligible for benefits regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. Eligibility for the foster child is based on the child's income.

Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing households of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for their children. Applications also are available at the principal's office in each school. To apply for free and reduced-price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school. Application may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used

for the purpose of determining eligibility and verification of data. The school officials may verify applications at any time during the school year.

For school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits, households receiving food stamps or TANF only have to list their child's name and food stamp or TANF case number. An adult household member must sign the application.

Households that do not list a food stamp or TANF case number must list the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member and the

social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult who signs the application does not have a social security number the household member must indicate that a social security number is not available by writing the word "NONE". An adult household member must sign the application.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, The Food service Director will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis. Parents

wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to George Blanch, P.O. Box W, Eldorado, Texas 76936 or Phone 915-853-2514.

Households that list a food stamp or TANF case number must report when the household no longer receives these benefits. Other households approved for benefits based on income of information must report increases in household income of over \$50 per month or \$600 per year and decrease in household size. Also, if a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should

contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits in household's income falls at or below the level shown above.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call 202/720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2001-2002 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

FAMILY SIZE	ANNUALLY		MONTHLY		WEEKLY	
	FREE	REDUCED PRICE	FREE	REDUCED PRICE	FREE	REDUCED PRICE
1	\$11,167	\$15,892	\$931	\$1,325	\$215	\$306
2	15,093	21,479	1,258	1,790	291	414
3	19,019	27,066	1,585	2,256	366	521
4	22,945	32,653	1,913	2,722	442	628
5	26,871	38,240	2,240	3,187	517	736
6	30,797	43,827	2,567	3,653	593	843
7	34,723	49,414	2,894	4,118	668	951
8	38,649	55,001	3,221	4,584	744	1,058
9	42,575	60,588	3,549	5,050	820	1,166
10	46,501	66,175	3,877	5,516	896	1,274
11	50,427	71,762	4,205	5,982	972	1,382
12	54,353	77,349	4,533	6,448	1,048	1,490
For each additional family member add:						
	+ \$3,926	+ \$5,587	+ \$328	+ \$466	+ \$76	+ \$108

PUBLIC NOTICE Free and Reduced-Priced Meals NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Schleicher County School District/Charter School
LETTER TO HOUSEHOLDS (Multi-Child)
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH/BREAKFAST PROGRAM
SCHOOL YEAR 2001-2002

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Schleicher County I.S.D. school(s) offers a choice of healthy meals each school day. Children may buy lunch for 1.20 1.30 1.40, breakfast for .50, and after school snacks for N/A. Children who qualify under U. S. Dept. of Agriculture guidelines may get meals free or at a reduced-price of .40 for lunch, .25 for breakfast and N/A for after school snacks. All meals served must meet nutrition standards established by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. If a child has a disability, as determined by a doctor, and the disability prevents the child from eating the regular school meal, the school will make substitutions prescribed by the doctor. If a substitution is needed, there will be no extra charge for the meal. Please note, however, that the school is not required to make a substitution for a food allergy, unless it meets the definition of disability. Please call the school for further information; telephone number: 853-3172 ext. 526

Your children can get free school meals if you get food stamps or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Depending on your income, your children may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

How do I get free or reduced-price school meals for my children? You must complete the Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals Form and return it to the school.

- Households getting food stamps or TANF. You only have to include your children's names and case numbers, and an adult household member must sign the form.
- Households that do not get food stamps or TANF. If you do not have a case number, you must include the names of all household members, the amount of income each person received last month and where the income came from. An adult household member must sign the form and include his or her social security number, or indicate that he or she has no social security number.
- Households with a foster children. You must include the children's names and the amount of "personal use" income the children received last month, and an adult must sign the form.

Will the form be verified? Your eligibility may be checked at any time during the school year. School officials may ask you to send written evidence that shows that your children should get free or reduced-price school meals.

Can I appeal the school's decision? You can talk to school officials if you do not agree with the school's decision on your form. You also may ask for a fair hearing by calling or writing to:

George Blanch (Superintendent of Schools) Phone: 915-853-2514 ext. 222

Mailing Address: 205 Field Street (P.O. Box W.) Eldorado, Texas 76936

Must I report changes? If your children get free or reduced-price meals because of your income, you must tell us if your household size decreases, or if your income increases by more than \$50 per month or \$600 per year. If your children get free meals because your household gets food stamps or TANF, you must tell us when you no longer get these benefits.

Will information on my form be kept confidential? We will use the information on your form to decide if your children should get free or reduced-price meals. We may inform officials with other child nutrition, health and education programs of the information on your form to determine benefits for those programs or for funding and/or evaluation purposes.

Can I apply for free and reduced-price meals later? You may apply for free and reduced-price meals at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now but have a change, like a decrease in household income, an increase in household size, become unemployed or get food stamps or TANF, complete another form then.

We will let you know if you are approved or denied.

Sincerely,

B. Massingill

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Schleicher County School District/Charter School
APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS (Multi-Child)
SCHOOL YEAR 2001-2002

Complete, sign and return the form to Schleicher County I.S.D. Please read the instructions. If you need help completing this form, call: Beverly Massingill @915-853-3172 ext. 526

1 (a) CHILD'S NAME: Last First M.I. Child's Grade: Name of School: SS#/Student ID (Optional) Or Site Number

(b) CHILD'S NAME: Last First M.I. Child's Grade: Name of School: SS#/Student ID (Optional) Or Site Number

(c) CHILD'S NAME: Last First M.I. Child's Grade: Name of School: SS#/Student ID (Optional) Or Site Number

(d) CHILD'S NAME: Last First M.I. Child's Grade: Name of School: SS#/Student ID (Optional) Or Site Number

(e) CHILD'S NAME: Last First M.I. Child's Grade: Name of School: SS#/Student ID (Optional) Or Site Number

2 Is this a FOSTER CHILD? (See the instructions). If this is a foster child, check here [] and write the child's monthly personal use income here: \$ Go to section # 5.

3 Are you getting FOOD STAMPS or TANF benefits for your child? List the CASE number. DO NOT complete section #4. Go to section # 5. Food stamp case number: TANF case number:

4 ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS: (Complete this part only if you did not complete sections #2 or #3). List all household members, including the children listed above. List all income. Go to section #5.

Names	Current Monthly Income				
	Names of Household Members (include the children listed above) If you need more spaces, attach a separate sheet	Monthly Earnings from Work (Before Deductions) Job 1	Monthly Welfare, Child Support, Alimony	Monthly Payments from Pensions, Retirement, Social Security	Monthly Earnings from Job 2 or Any Other Monthly Income
1.		\$	\$	\$	\$
2.		\$	\$	\$	\$
3.		\$	\$	\$	\$
4.		\$	\$	\$	\$
5.		\$	\$	\$	\$
6.		\$	\$	\$	\$
7.		\$	\$	\$	\$
8.		\$	\$	\$	\$
9.		\$	\$	\$	\$
10.		\$	\$	\$	\$

5 SIGNATURE AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: PENALTIES FOR MISREPRESENTATION: I certify that all of the above information is true and correct and that the food stamp or TANF case number is current, correct or that all income is reported. I understand that this information is being given for the receipt of Federal funds; that institution officials may verify the information on the Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals and that the deliberate misrepresentation of the information may subject me to prosecution under applicable State and Federal laws.

Signature of Adult: Social Security Number: Printed Name: Home Phone: Work Phone: Mailing Address: City: State: Zip Code: Date:

For Official Use Only: MONTHLY INCOME CONVERSION: WEEKLY X 4.33, EVERY 2 WEEKS X 2.15, TWICE A MONTH X 2 Food Stamp/TANF household categorically eligible fee: [] Yes [] No Total monthly income: Household size: Eligible NOT Eligible Date Withdrawn: Eligibility Classification: Free Reduced-Price Paid Temporary: Free Time Period: Determining Official: Signature Date

Call 915-853-2808
214 BLUEBONNET DR.
 Real nice 3/BR-3 1/2 home. this home has been remodeled and maintained-you can just move in and start living. Carpet, new central air/heat, large lot w/fenced yard. Quality property with lots of room. \$82,000.

216 BLUEBONNET DR.
 Comfortable 3/BR-2BA Brick Home. Cent. Air/Heat, Spacious Kitchen & Den, Utility Room, Enclosed Porch, Carpet, Fenced Yard, Large Corner Lot, Good Condition and ready for new owner to move in. \$63,000.

202 DIXIE DRIVE
 Attractive 3/BR-1B Home. Livingroom, Den, Central Air/Heat, Shop w/lots of storage. Fenced yard & Gazebo. \$45,000.

Lynn Meador Real Estate
 5 N. Divide Lynn Meador, Broker • Jo Ward, Agent/ 915-853-2339

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 BOARD CERTIFIED PERSONAL INJURY TRIAL LAWYER
 Texas Board of Legal Specialization
1 (800) 468-4878 or 1 (800) 883-9858
 Mr. Willis is likely to associate with other attorneys in the handling of this matter

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County gets new State Representative & State Senator

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I'm excited about the opportunity to get to know and represent the citizens and Eldorado and Schleicher County," Duncan commented on Tuesday. "We'll look to have a full time district office in that region of district to help service the needs of the constituents there. Representing forty-six counties is going to pose some unique challenges, but I look forward to these new opportunities."

The Success attempted to contact Representative Gallego, as well, but he was unavailable for comment.

Senator Robert Duncan is married to Lynne Stebbins Duncan. They have two children, Lindsey and Matthew. Duncan attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock, where he received his bachelor of science degree in Agricultural Economics in 1976. While at Texas Tech, he Duncan served as student body president and as a member of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity and the Texas Tech Athletic Council. He received his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from the Texas Tech University School of Law in 1981 and joined the Lubbock Law Firm of Crenshaw, Dupree and Milam, where he is a partner.

Duncan has previous experience in the Texas Senate, serving as general counsel to the Texas Senate State Affairs Committee in the 71st Legislature in 1989. His uncle, the late Marshall Formby, was a member of the Texas Senate, elected from the 30th Senate District in the 1940's, and represented many of the same counties now served by Senator Duncan, in the 28th Senate District.

In 1992, Duncan was elected to the Texas House of Representatives from District 84 and in 1993, was selected by his House colleagues as the House Freshman of

the Year, and by the Republican House Caucus, as Republican Freshman of the Year. In 1995, Duncan was named by the National Republican Legislators Association as 1995 National Legislator of the Year.

As State Representative, Duncan co-authored many of the bills included in the 1995 tort reform legislation. He also played an active role in reforming and improving the Department of Insurance in Texas and authored legislation aimed at increasing the availability of insurance in underserved areas, and established a pilot program to fight insurance fraud.

Under the redistricting plan Duncan will represent the following counties in West Texas: Armstrong, Borden, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Coke, Collingsworth, Concho, Cottle, Crosby, Dawson, Dickens, Donley, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Garza, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hardeman, Haskell, Hockley, Irion, Jones, Kent, King, Knox, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Mitchell, Motley, Nolan, Reagan, Runnels, Schleicher, Scurry, Sterling, Stonewall, Swisher, Terry, Tom Green, Upton and Wheeler.

Representative Pete Gallego is in his sixth term in the Texas House of Representatives. He was the first Hispanic to represent the vast border district. He was also the first freshman member and the first minority member to be elected chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, a post he still holds. In the

Texas House, Gallego currently chairs the General Investigating Committee and serves on the Appropriations and Elections committees. He serves on the joint House/Senate Conference Committee on Appropriations. He has also served on the Texas Commission of Judicial Efficiency and currently sits on the Texas Judicial Council and the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission.

A native of Alpine, Texas, Pete Gallego holds degrees from Sul Ross State University and The University of Texas School of Law. He is a member of the Sul Ross Hall of Fame and was also honored by his alma mater as a Distinguished Alumnus. He is a member of the Board of Visitors of The University of Texas McDonald Observatory and serves on the Board of Directors of the Texas Equal Access to Justice Foundation.

Known by his colleagues in the Texas Legislature as an expert in law enforcement, criminal justice and victim's rights, Representative Gallego was named by Texas Monthly to its "Ten Best Legislators" list following the 76th legislative session. He has received numerous awards and honors including the "Advocate for Justice" award from a coalition of Texas victims' rights organizations and the "Star of Texas" public service award presented by Common Cause of Texas. He has also been honored by the Department of Pub-

lic Safety's Division of Emergency Management as an Honorary Manager and by the Heart of Texas as Regional Advisory Council for his efforts to improve emergency response systems statewide. He has been honored by the Texas State University System, The University of Texas System, and the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas in appreciation for his support of higher education.

The National Council of State Governments awarded Pete Gallego the prestigious Henry Toll Fellowship, recognizing him as one of the outstanding young leaders in the nation. He was also named to the 1996 Flemming Fellows Leadership Institute of the Center for Policy Alternatives and presently serves as President of the Texas Lyceum Association, an organization comprised of individuals under the age of 45 who have demonstrated leadership abilities throughout the State of Texas.

Representative Gallego maintains his residence in Alpine, where he was born and raised. A practicing attorney, he now heads the southwest Texas law office of Davis & Wilkerson, P.C.

Under the new redistricting plan, Gallego will represent the following counties in West Texas: Brewster, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Glasscock, Hudspeth, Irion, Jeff Davis, Loving, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Reeves, Schleicher, Sterling, Terrell, Upton, Val Verde, Ward and Winkler.

TxDOT's "Gotcha" program involves citizens with anti-litter effort

Unfortunately, not everyone understands the meaning of "Don't Mess With Texas."

Instead of just watching Texas highways get trashed, a new program allows the public to get involved by reporting litterers to the Texas Department of Transporta-

tion's GOTCHA program.

Just record the details, including the time, date, location, vehicle make, License number and trash item. Then, submit this information by calling 888-TEX-8683 or e-mail:

www.dontmesswithtexas.org.

Persons caught tossing trash will receive a Don't Mess With Texas litterbag and a friendly note in the mail, reminding them that it's against the law to litter.

For more information, contact Public Information Officer Patsy Rainwater-Maddux at 947-9205.



The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity at the Schleicher County Sheriff's Dept. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the Sheriff's office, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Incidents of major impact will be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ARREST

July 24 • Alderman, Todd Lee, male age 23, arrested by SC Officer, charge DPS Warrants, Schleicher County. Released time served.

July 29 • Garza, Edelmiro, male age 31, arrested by SC Officer, charge Out of County Warrants, Randall County. Released on \$1,000 Surety Bond.

• Wilson, Jaime Dale, male age 28, arrested by SC Officer, charge Out of County Warrant, Possession of Marijuana (less than 2 ozs.), Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Released on \$2,500 Williamson County Warrant and \$1,000 Surety Bond.

REPORTS

July 25 • 12:51 a.m. Sheriff Office received a 911 call, which the person on the line would not answer. After several tries to make contact a male subject stated that there was no problem, just a misunderstanding, officers were enroute. Dispatcher received a call on the office line and a male subject stated that there had been an assault at the same address. A Criminal Trespass Notice was served.

7:00 p.m. Complainant reported two items had been taken from the family cemetery plot. One an-

gel and one wind chime. Estimated value \$25.00.

8:30 p.m. Sutton County Police Department reported a possible drunk driver driving a blue/white F250 occupied two times, one white male and one small child. Mother is concerned and requested a welfare check. Officer responded.

• **8:56 p.m.** Complainant reported a red Camaro driving recklessly. Officer responded.

July 26 • 7:30 a.m. Complainant requested that someone picked up a Sears cargo shell that was left at the business on S. Divide the day before. Item was left at the rear of the store.

• **10:45 a.m.** and **4:37 p.m.** Complainants reported grass fires on a at two different locations. Fire department responded.

• **8:20 p.m.** Complainant reported a suspicious vehicle on Avenue A. Officer responded. **11:30 p.m.** Same caller with another suspicious vehicle. Officer responded.

July 27 • 9:45 a.m. Complainant on Herman Street reported that the brake line on their pickup had been cut and also their cat had died or been killed.

• **9:59 a.m.** Complainant 11 miles out on 190 West requested a fire truck to assist putting out some hay that was on fire.

• **5:30 p.m.** Complainant reported receiving harassing phone calls at their business and at home.

• **7:10 p.m.** Complainant reported a domestic disturbance at the pay phone at convenience store. Two officers responded.

• **8:28 p.m.** Complainant reported the same couple having a domestic disturbance at the same location. Two officers responded.

• **8:58 p.m.** Complainant on Hill St. requested an officer to speak to their neighbor about their dog. Officer responded.

July 28 • 11:29 a.m. A 911 call report a fire on Nance Street. Advised complainant that it is a controlled burn. Dispatcher requested officer check status and reported Fire Chief was on scene and all was OK.

July 29 • 12:00 a.m. Complain-

ant reported an accident on 190 West with a child possibly missing. All units responded.

• **7:34 p.m.** Complainant reported that their son had received a phone call from a female subject who they have a Criminal Trespass on. Officer responded and call was received at 8:40 p.m.

• **12:45 p.m.** Complainant came into the Sheriff Office to report an item stolen off of her pickup. Officer questioned complainant but she could not identify the item missing, but she knew something was gone. Subject refused to give officer her name or driver's license.

July 29 • 9:35 a.m. Subject requested to speak to an officer, officer responded.

• **1:21 p.m.** Report of a grass fire out on FM 1828. Fire Chief and 2 units responded on the Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department.

• **11:18 p.m.** Complainant requested an officer speak to some juveniles at the Little League Baseball Park.

July 30 • Complainant reported a white Ford pickup pulling a black trailer 23 miles out on 190 East traveling west. The trailer was throwing trash all over the road. Officer responded.

• **7:00 p.m.** Complainant requested an ambulance for her 74 year old husband who is possibly having a heart attack. Officer and EMS responded along with AirMed 1 also responding.

• **7:29 p.m.** Complainant at convenience store reported that he was stopped while reading his map and someone threw him out of the car and stole his car. Officer responded. **8:12 p.m.** Complainant advised the officer that he was held at gunpoint by a white male. Advised white male had on a white T-Shirt and blue jeans. Subject also has a beard.

• **7:53 p.m.** Ozona Sheriff Office reported a one vehicle roll over 13 miles West of Eldorado. Officer, EMS 2 and Volunteer Fire Department responded. **8:01 p.m.** Ozona Sheriff Office called back and advised accident was in Crockett County. All units disregarded.

Encounter with a rabid coyote left indelible marks

Editor's note: This column, about former Eldorado residents Bill Rountree and W.G. Godwin first appeared in the Stephenville Empire-Tribune and is reprinted here with permission of the newspaper and the author

The following story was told to me by Bill Rountree and happened in July of 1957. The reason for repeating it in this space is that rabies is always a thing to be considered when dealing with an animal that behaves "out of character." I am using Bill's own words in retelling this frightening story.

"Scared! I have never been so scared before or since. A rabid coyote entered our living quarters. Jerry Thompson, a government water gauger who checked the rise and fall of the Rio Grande had invited us to come and fish in the Big Bend Country. Our party included W.G. Godwin, C Agent, Schleicher County; Lloyd Johnson, Conservation Aid, Soil Conservation Service and myself, at that time District Conservationist SCS. We were from Eldorado

"We left Eldorado on Thursday morning for the Big Bend Nation-

al Park and arrived late in the evening. We make no attempt to fish that day but spent the rest of that setting up camp. At bedtime we all decided to sleep on the front porch in the moonlight night. This was a big mistake on my part because Godwin and Johnson both snored so loud that I couldn't sleep. I lay awake on my cot and watched the coyotes play in the courtyard.

"We fished all the next day but with little success so we set out trot-lines and made big plans for the great fish we would catch the following day and so it was time to prepare supper. After supper we ran and baited the trotlines came back to camp and made preparations for the night's rest. I decided to move my bed inside and

Godwin said he was moving inside as well. The building had a

concrete floor with no doors that could be closed front or back. The WPA constructed the building during the depression days.

"This was another moonlight night and it was bright as day. I am a light sleeper and had just dozed off when I heard soft footprints on the concrete floor. I opened my eyes and there was a coyote standing at the head of my cot. I yelled, "Get out of here". The animal bristled up and answered with a low growl, showing his teeth. By this time Godwin was awake and with both of us yelling, he left. We assumed that he was gone but we had no more than laid down again when here he was right back at my cot. He was growling louder now and the hair along his back was standing straight up. I thought he was going to get in the cot with me.

"Godwin and I began yelling

and the coyote left for the second time. Then Godwin got up in his shorts and barefooted and went to the door to see if the animal was gone. The coyote met him in the doorway so Godwin kicked at him with his bare foot and the coyote sunk his teeth into my friend's leg. In the meantime Johnson had woke up and he grabbed an old steel fishing rod and hit the coyote, breaking his back.

"Needless to say, we cut off his head, broke camp, left trotlines in the river and headed for Alpine some 90 miles away. It was about 12:00 a.m. when we left."

"The doctor in Alpine gave Godwin the first of 23 shots in the stomach for rabies. The head was mailed to Austin and in a few days the report came back that the coyote was in an advanced stage of rabies.

Goldwin's treatment was completed successfully leaving him with only a painful stomach, the skin of which itched mightily for weeks. He was always a little shy about camping out in the wild after that, and took on a real unfavorable attitude toward coyotes, especially those that come calling in the middle of the night.

Animal Tales

by Joyce Whitis

I am a light sleeper and had just dozed off when I heard soft footprints on the concrete floor. I opened my eyes and there was a coyote standing at the head of my cot.

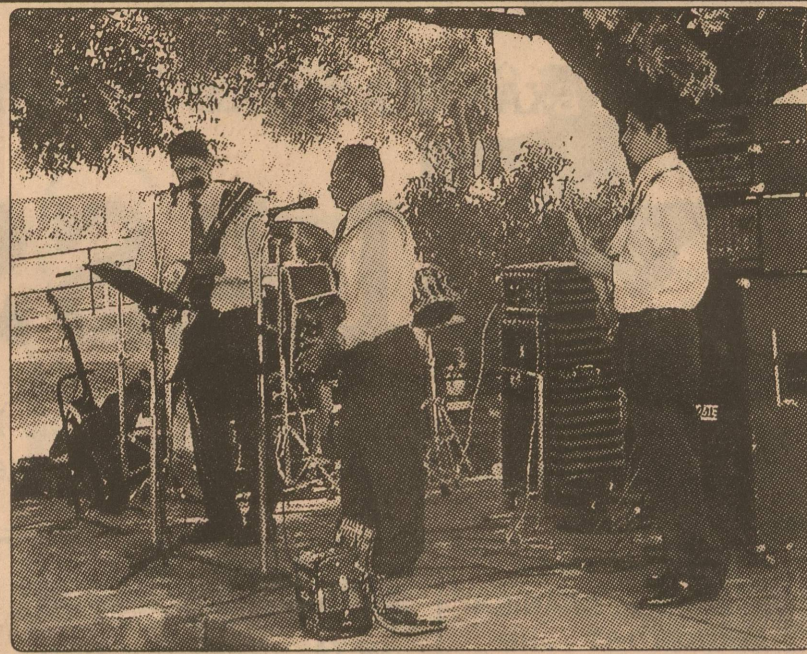


PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Making beautiful music — Los Benedicidos de Cristo, a Latin-style Christian band from Ft. Worth entertained the guests Saturday at the 1st Annual "Honor Bound Chivo Cook Off" on the courthouse square. The goat cook off and concert were sponsored by the Templo Getsemani Church.

"Do Not Call" list will help disconnect telemarketers

by Jeff Wentworth
State Senator, District 25

Although most unsolicited telemarketing calls are simply annoying invasions of privacy, others may have more serious consequences. Unscrupulous telemarketers annually bilk an estimated \$40 billion from consumers, many of whom are senior citizens.

Because 78 percent of telemarketing fraud targets people who are 55 years of age and older, the American Association of Retired Persons and the Silver-haired Legislature made a no-call bill a legislative priority. Thousands of Senate District 25 constituents also indicated that they wanted the Texas Legislature to disconnect telemarketers.

During the recent legislative session, we passed the Texas Telemarketing Disclosure and Privacy Act, which establishes a "Do Not Call" list for Texas. The act, which becomes effective January 1, 2002, also prohibits telemarketers from blocking their numbers or interfering with caller ID.

The Public Utility Commission (PUC) is adopting no-call-list guidelines. They will include a toll-free number, mailing address and Internet web site which consumers may contact for information about the list and where to send a \$3 fee.

A listing will be good for three years and may be renewed for \$3. Telemarketers may not contact people on the list beginning 60 days after their numbers are published.

Anyone who engages in telemarketing in Texas must obtain a copy of the do-not-call list and honor customers' requests not to be called. Violators could be fined up to \$1,000 per violation and have their licenses suspended or revoked for repeated violations.

A subsequent violation could be cause for a civil action if the consumer had notified the appropriate agency of the violation and the agency failed to act. The court could award damages up to \$500 per violation.

Provisions of House Bill 472, which created the privacy act, also require fax transmissions to follow federal standards, which include a cover sheet stating the solicitor's name, address and toll-free number. The telephone must be answered during business hours by someone capable of responding to inquiries or by an automatic device capable of deleting a specified telephone number.

If requested, customers' numbers must be deleted from a fax list within 24 hours. Customers could bring a private suit for the actual monetary loss or \$500 for each violation.

HB 472 protects both legitimate businesses and consumers who have been harassed and defrauded by unscrupulous telemarketers. The bill makes exceptions for calls regarding securities, to collect a debt, in answer to solicitations or advertisements or in connection with a business relationship.

Until the bill becomes effective, Texans must ask telemarketers not to call again. HB 472 puts the burden of stopping calls on telemarketers.

Even after the bill becomes effective, consumers should exercise a healthy dose of skepticism when the telephone rings and someone at the other end asks for a charitable contribution. If you have any doubt about the caller's legitimacy, please get the charity or company name, address and phone number, and call the Office of the Attorney General toll-free at (800) 252-8011 or the PUC toll-free at (888) 782-8477. Customers may also check out telemarketing information at the PUC's website at: www.puc.state.tx.us.

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